

Goals of this lecture: 1) To understand some reasons behind the fall of the Roman Republic; 2) to understand the achievement of Augustus and interpretations of his achievement; 3) to learn some tensions of the Empire; 4) to understand some Latin Imperial literature in context

Intro: *Virtutes Romanae* – the idealized Republic and its *exempla*

- 1) Asylum and the Rape of the Sabine Women (Livy 1.8-11)
- 2) Cincinnatus: farmer/patriot/general; courage; austerity; modesty (Livy 3.26)
- 3) Lucretia: modesty; chastity; industry; mindful of exemplarity (Livy 1.58)

I: The fall of the Republic

- 1) Review of Roman “Constitution”: People, Senate, Annual Magistrates
- 2) Hannibal and the devastation of Italy
- 3) From 202-133 BCE: shifts in wealth, land, power
- 4) The weakness of the Senate and the choice of Sulla (89 BCE)
- 5) The power of the generals and the choice of Caesar (45 BCE)
- 6) The choice of Augustus

II. The Achievements of Augustus (*Res Gestae*)

- 1) End of civil wars, political stability
- 2) Political unification of Italy
- 3) Restoration of laws and government offices
- 4) Renovation of temples and religious observances
- 5) Beautification of Rome: the *Ara Pacis*

III. Another View: “The Consolidation of the Revolutionary Process” (Syme)

- 1) Loss of *libertas*
- 2) Assumption of extraordinary executive and legal powers
- 3) Quelling of dissent, murder of opposition
- 4) Bribery of armies and people

IV. Augustan literature and Vergil’s *Aeneid* (19 BCE)

- 1) Literary allusions: *Iliad* and *Odyssey*, continuity and change
- 2) Political allusions: Aeneas and Rome’s founding, Augustus and its ‘refounding’

V. The Principate

- 1) The death of Augustus (14 CE): Republic or Principate?
- 2) Julio-Claudian Emperors: Tiberius, Gaius (Caligula), Claudius, Nero
- 3) Opposition: political, philosophic, artistic – the ghosts of the Republic

VI. Expansion of Empire

- 1) Rome and provinces
- 2) Citizenship (*Civitas*)
 - A) Rome and Italy
 - B) Towards east: Judaea; Towards west: Spain, Gaul
 - D) Rebellion and revolt

VII. The Elusive “Golden Age” – Augustus, Nero, Hadrian...

- 1) Another view of early Rome: Juvenal 6.1-20.
- 2) Canonization of authors and texts: Cicero
- 3) Monumentality and glory (Horace, *Ode* III.30), the Pantheon

VIII. Conclusion